PRATESI, S. et al.
Appl. No. To be assigned
US National Phase of PCT/EP02/14893
June 28, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims have been amended to reduce the filing fees, without prejudice.

The specification has been amended to include a cross-reference to the parent applications and to include the abstract.

An early and favorable action on the merits of the claimed invention is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

Rv:

Richard G. Besha Reg. No. 22,770

RGB:ecb 1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor

Arlington, VA 22201-4714 Telephone: (703) 816-4000 Facsimile: (703) 816-4100